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**Private Property & Building Inspections
For the Fitchburg DPW Wastewater Division's Sewer System Study**

Private property and buildings inspections will be scheduled with property owners, the week of – July 18, 2016. Property inspections are tentatively scheduled to be performed the week of July 25, 2016.

The Consent Decree work Fitchburg DPW Wastewater Division has been undertaking includes investigations of the sewer system to identify sources on non-sewerage water that enter into the sewer system. This water is from rainwater (called "inflow") and from subsurface groundwater (called "infiltration").

This extraneous water is a problem to the sewers because it contributes to a loss of flowing capacity of the sewers, overloading of the treatment plant due to extreme high flows, sewer system surcharges and risk of sewer overflows to the environment, and potential sewer system impacts to sewer customers by sewer backups into customers' properties.

Smoke testing of certain areas of the City recently concluded. During smoke testing of sewers and manhole inspections, defects are often noted that could potentially allow infiltration and inflow into the sewer collection system.

The City's consulting engineer, Wright-Pierce, will be coordinating private property inspections for selected properties connected to the City sewer system. Investigators will be looking for roof drains, area drains, sump pumps which may be contributing non-sewerage water to the sewer system. The duration of a property inspection by investigators is typically 20-minutes, or less. Property owners of properties selected for inspections will be mailed a questionnaire survey to property owners to complete and return to Wright-Pierce.

The principal contact person for Wright-Pierce for the private properties inspections is Mr. Matt Corbin. Mr. Corbin can be reached at the following contact telephone number: 978-416-8018.

Jeffrey A. Murawski, P.E., DPW Deputy Commissioner of Wastewater
Fitchburg DPW Wastewater Division